Losses of Indian rare earths limited

569. SHRI THOMAS KUTHIRAVATTOM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the total accumulated loss of Indian Rare Earths Limited for the last three financial years viz. 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87;

(b) what are the reasons thereor; and

(c) what remedial steps Government contemplate to take to run the company as a result-oriented and profit-earning units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Indian Rare Earths Limited has been making profit continuously for over two decades up to the year 1985-86. Details of profit/loss made in the last three years are given below:

1984-85	: Rs. 4.96 crore net profit
1985-86	: Rs. 6.38 crore net profit
1986-87	: Rs. 5.73 crore net loss.

(b) Orissa Sands Complex—a Rs. 136 crore project of IRE—started commercial production on 1 10.1986 and has not been able to attain optimum level of production due to various technical reasons.

(c) The company has been a result-oriented and profit earning unit upto the time of the commissioning of Orissa Sands Complex. Efforts are being made to attain the desired level of production at OSCOM by equipping the plant with certain additional facilities and modificatons. Several diversification programmes for production of value added products are under way in the company.

Cases pending in Andhra Pradesh

570. SHRI GOPALA RAO RAO: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases pending in Andhra Pradesh High Court as on 30th October, 1987 and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government have taken any steps to clear those cases expeditiously; and

(c) the number of cases which are pending for more than 3 years, more than 5 years and more than 10 years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) As per the information furnished by the Registry of the Andhra Pradesh High Court, 86137 cases were pending before the Court as on 30.6.1987. The pendency is due to several complex factors and increase in fresh institution of cases.

(b) Steps taken by the Government to reduce the pendency of cases have been indicated in the attached Statement. (*See* below)

(c) As per informaion furnished by the Registry of the Andhra Pradesh High Court, the number of cases pending as on 30.6.1987 for more than three, five and ten years was 24072, 8444 and 69, respectively.

Statement

Steps taken from time to time to reduce pendency

The following steps have been taken in recent years to reduce pendency in the High Courts:—

1. Elimination of arrears in all the Courts has been discussed in the Conference of Chief Justices, Chief Ministers and Law Ministers of States held on 31st August—1st September 1985 and the Resolutions of the Conference have been commended to the High Courts and the State Governments.

2 The Code of Civil Procedure was amended in 1976 to abolish Letters Patent Appeals from judgment of Single Judge of the High Court in Second Appeal (*vide* Section 100-A).

3. The Code of Criminal Procedure based on the recommendations of the Law Commission was enacted in 1973.

4 The Sanctioned strength of the High Court Judges has been increased from 351 in March, 1977 to 440 as on 1st February, 1987

5. Apart from the above, certain High Courts are taking the following steps for ensuring better disposal of cases:—

(a) Cases involving common questions are being grouped by several High Courts;

(b) Matters fixed for hearing by giving short returnable dates;

(c) Dispensing with printing of records;

(d) Expediting and giving priority to matters under certain Acts.

6 The recommendations contained in the 79th Report of the Law Commission have been examined As action on majority of the recommendations is to be taken by the State Governments and the High Courts, these have been sent to them alongwith the views of the Union Government, and they have been requested to take necessary action

7. The Government have entrusted the Law Commission, the study of the judicial system to introduce necessary reforms. The terms of reference are:—

(a) the need or decentralisation of the system of administration of justice by:

(i) establishing, extending and strengthening in rural areas the institution of Nyaya Panchayats or other mechanisms for resolving disputes;

(ii) setting up a system of participatory justice with defined jurisdiction and powers in suitable areas and centres;

(iii) establishing other tiers or systems within the judicial hierarchy to reduce the volume of work in the Supreme Court and the High Courts.

(b) the matters for which Tribunal (excluding Services Tribunals) as envisaged in Part-XIV-A of the Constitution need to be established expeditiously and various aspects related to their establishment and working

(c) the procedural laws with a view generally to disposing of cases expeditiously, eliminating unnecessary litigation, delays in hearing of cases and reforms in procedures and procedural laws and particularly to devising procedures appropriate to the forums envisaged in items (a) (i) and (a) (ii)

(d) the method of appointments to subordinate courts, subordinate judiciary

(e) the training of Judicial Officers.

(f) the role of the legal profession in strengthening the system of administration of justice.

(g) the desirability of formulation of the norms which the Government and the Public Sector Undertakings should follow in the settlement of disputes including a review of the present system for conduct of litigation on behalf of the Government and such Undertakings.

(h) the cost of litigation with a view to lessening the burden on the litigants.

(i) formation of an All India Judicial Service; and

(j) such other matters as the Commission considers proper or necessary for the purposes aforesaid or as may be referred to it from time to time by the Government.

Vacancies of Judges in Andhra Pradesh High Court

571 SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vacancies of Judges in Andhra Pradesh High Court as on 30th October, 1987;

(b) whether Government propose to fill up these vacancies; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the probable date by when these vacancies are likely to be filled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c) As on 30th October, 1987, there were 5 vacancies in the sanctioned strength of 26 Judges/Additional Judges in the Andhra Pradesh High Court.

Some proposals for making appointments against these vacancies have been received. It is not possible to indicate the probable date by when these are likely to be filled.

Setting up of aeronautical engineering department in MCEME

572. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up an Aeronautical Engineering Department at the Military College of Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (MCEME) at Bolarum in Secunderabad, Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal and the amount sanctioned for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) There is a proposal in the Army Headquarters for the establishment of a Faculty of Aeronautical Engineering in the Military College of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering, Secunderabad.

(b) Details have yet to be finalised; no funds have so far been sanctioned for the purpose.

Bid to export nuclear material from US to Pakistan

573. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY:

DR. BAPU KALDATE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken note of the recent statement of Prime Minister of Pakistan that India is involved in Arshad Pervaz bid to export from U S A 50,000 pounds of maraging Steel 350 and Beryllium-nuclear-making materials through India;